LOCAL SUBJECTS.

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CARDAMOM HILLS DISTRICT.

234. Outlet road from the Cardamom Hills.

Mr. G. A. Baker on behalf of Mr. H. M. Knight (Cardamom Planters' Association) observed that a sum of Rs. 10,000 had been sanctioned by Government for the opening of outlet roads but, so far, only one of them *viz.*, the Pathinettampadi road, had been cut. The trace of this had been passed by the Superintendent of the Cardamom Hills and paid for by Government, but the sanctioned cost of the road already cut had not been paid for, because it lay outside Travancore territory, and only the verbal sanction of the Zemindar of Thevaram through whose land it passed had been obtained which the Government considered insufficient. This road was daily used by both the officers and the ryots of the Cardamom Hills and the late Dewan travelled down it as the only means of carrying out his inspection. He therefore prayed that the sanctioned cost of the road might be paid by Government and the annual cost of upkeep at Rs. 30 per mile be allowed with retrospective effect for three years, as it was undoubted hardship that the cost and upkeep of the road should be borne by an individual ryot when it was used by the general public.

Reply.—Rs. 10,000 has been sanctioned and the planters have been asked to get the necessary permission from the British authorities for opening the roads which have to pass through British territories. In reference to a representation from the planters, Government have already replied that they could not undertake to obtain this permission for them.

235. Improvements to the main road.

Mr. G. A. Baker on behalf of Mr. H. M. Knight (Cardamom Planters' Association) represented that the improvements in the main road so far completed had not yet been paid for, though sanctioned, because the work connected with the roads in the Cardamom Hills had been taken away from the Cardamom Superintendent and entrusted to the Public Works Department. The work of the Gudumpara

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